

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A method for positioning an implantable flow probe for measuring blood flow through a blood vessel, comprising:

aligning the implantable flow probe in a desired position with respect to the blood vessel;  
and  
adjusting a size of the probe to achieve a close fit with the blood vessel to hold the flow probe in the desired position with respect to the blood vessel;

~~The method of claim 41,~~ wherein the probe includes a sensor housing, a coupling member and a closure mechanism, and wherein aligning the implantable flow probe in a desired position with respect to the blood vessel and adjusting a size of the probe to achieve a close fit with the blood vessel to hold the flow probe in the desired position with respect to the blood vessel includes:

connecting the coupling member to the sensor housing to form a structure such that an outwardly facing surface of the coupling member is received by an inwardly facing surface of the sensor housing;

positioning the structure to partially encircle the blood vessel such that an inwardly facing surface of the coupling member closely fits with the exterior of the blood vessel; and

coupling a closure mechanism to the structure such that a combination of the structure and the closure mechanism encircles and closely fits with the exterior of the blood vessel

45-57. (Cancelled).

58. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein adjusting a size of the probe includes changing a diameter of the probe to a diameter of the blood vessel.

59. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein aligning the implantable flow probe in a desired position with respect to the blood vessel and adjusting a size of the probe to achieve a close fit with the blood vessel to hold the flow probe in the desired position with respect to the blood vessel includes:

adjusting the size of the probe to partially encircle an exterior of the blood vessel and achieve a close fit with the blood vessel; and

aligning the implantable flow probe in a desired position with respect to the exterior of the blood vessel.

60. (New) The method of claim 44, further comprising positioning the coupling member using a positioning tool.